

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A headrest for use with a seat back of an automobile, comprising:

a mount having a first end operatively attached to a top portion of the seat back, and wherein the headrest is pivotably mounted to a second end of the mount and pivots about a swivel axis;

a spring operatively mounted to the headrest, and for applying a pressure against the headrest when the headrest is folded toward and generally parallel with the seatback into engagement and in a "use" position; and

wherein said headrest is pivoted out of engagement and about the swivel axis to tilt the headrest forward and generally perpendicular with the seatback against the pressure of the spring when the headrest is lowered below a minimum height.2. The headrest for use with the seat back according to Claim 1, wherein the engagement is provided by a releasable engagement device including an adjustment lever and engaging element, the adjustment lever operatively and rotatably connected to the headrest, and the engaging element generally fixedly mounted to the mount, wherein the engaging element has an engagement recess and a stop, and the adjustment lever has a first area and a second area, wherein the first area of the engaging element engages the

engagement recess under the pressure from the spring in the headrest "use" position, and when the height of the headrest is adjusted to below the minimum height, the second area contacts a contact area on the seat back, and the first area is released from engagement from the engagement recess causing the headrest to tilt forward and generally perpendicular with the seatback against the pressure of the spring.

3. The headrest for use with the seat back according to Claim 1, further including an adjustment lever having a first area at a first end and a second area at a second end.

4. The headrest for use with the seat back according to Claim 3, wherein the adjustment lever is an angled lever.

5. The headrest for use with the seat back according to Claim 4, wherein the adjustment lever may be swiveled about a lever axis parallel to the swivel axis of the headrest.

6. The headrest for use with the seat back according to Claim 5, wherein, when the adjustment lever is in an alternate position, the first area of the adjustment lever

disengages from an engagement recess, and the headrest is positioned in a forward-most position generally perpendicular with the seatback when the adjustment lever engages a stop.

7. The headrest for use with the seat back according to Claim 6, wherein the spring is a leg spring operatively mounted concentric to the swivel axis.

8. The headrest for use with the seat back according to Claim 7, further including a second spring between the first area of the adjustment lever and the headrest, and wherein the second spring is a tension spring.

9. The headrest for use with the seat back according to Claim 8, wherein the headrest is pivotable about the swivel axis when the headrest is lowered or raised with respect to the seatback.

10. The headrest for use with the seat back according to Claim 9, wherein the headrest may be further lowered after it has been lowered to a minimum height setting and has been tilted forward.